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COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from NeuruppinEVALUATION see belowPLACE OBTAINED 

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DATE OF CONTENT 3 December 1953 to 10 January 1954DATE OBTAINED  REPARED 1 February 1954REFERENCES 25X1APAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS 

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SOURCE 

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1. On 7 January 1954, the Fridericus Kaserne in Neuruppin was occupied beyond capacity. Unmarried officers who had hitherto been billeted outside the barracks installation moved into vacated troop quarters in the barracks installation. Soldiers stated that this measure was carried through with all units. On 7 January, building No 14 was occupied by Unit Bykovski. At about 10 a.m., about 25 soldiers equipped with a heavy machine gun left the building toward the terrain. They returned at about 2 p.m. At the same time, T-34/85 tanks No 340 and 346 drove into the installation. The tanks were parked in garage No 17, while the crews entered building No 14. About 200 soldiers received close-order drill in the barracks yard. Source determined that all construction projects planned for Soviet-occupied military installations at the beginning of 1954 were postponed indefinitely.
2. At the beginning of January, Soviet officer dependents were seen in Neuruppin. Soviet women did their shopping also in German stores.
3. On 15 December, source determined that Unit Kovalenkov was commanded by one Colonel Tsirgi Aleksandrovich Gromakov who was billeted at 5 Trift Strasse in Neuruppin. The colonel drove jeep  25X1B.
4. On 15 December, Unit Nikolayev was transferred from its quarters at 1 Junker Strasse to the school building in the eastern section of the See Kaserne. The vacated quarters will allegedly be occupied by Soviet dependents.
5. On 21 December, trucks  equipped 25X1B with billeting equipment shuttled from the former post office building on Junker Strasse to the cantonment on Scholtenplatz. Three 132-mm rocket launchers which source saw in the yard of the cantonment left the installation and, presumably, drove to the Friedrich Franz Kaserne. It seemed that all rocket launchers which had previously been parked in one of the low buildings of the cantonment on Scholtenplatz were transferred to the Friedrich Franz Kaserne. About 14 soldiers trained with 2 x 120-mm mortars in the area of Scholtenplatz. 1

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6. Soviet documents found in the basement of the quarters of Unit Zultanov in the Friedrich Franz Kaserne on 3 December

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7. On 23 December, the garrison hospital quartered the division headquarters of the 12th Gds Tank Div, [redacted] Gds Colonel Potyenko (fnu), the division commander, was on furlough. On 23 December, source determined that one Major Duerkov (fnu) was deputy of Lieutenant Colonel Komotenko (fnu) and Lieutenant Besnozikov (fnu) was supply officer. From 25 November to 8 December, Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandreyev (fnu), the headquarters commandant, was detached for a course of instruction.

[redacted]  
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8. On 23 December, the Friedrich Franz Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Between 19 and 23 December, up to 300 recruits were daily engaged in close-order drill in the barracks yard. On 20 December, 4 trucks, each towing an artillery piece were seen in the barracks area. Between 5 and 9 January, source determined Lieutenant Colonel Tsevdchenko (fnu) as commanding officer [redacted] and Lieutenant Colonel Zultanov (fnu) as supply officer of the unit. Unit Lieutenant Colonel Tsevdchenko (fnu) vacated house No 8 on Junker Strasse and the third story in the Telegraphenbauamt building which had so far been occupied by Unit Major Nikolayev (fnu). A Soviet officer told source that No 8 Junker Strasse was to be occupied by Unit Stetsenko. On 6 January, soldiers trained with several AA guns in the barracks yard.

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9. Between 25 November and 8 December, source determined that Captain Chesnokov (fnu), the former chief of the Kech in Neuruppin, was reassigned to Riga on 24 November. He was succeeded by Lieutenant Colonel Flyashkin (fnu). Source learned further that German personnel, especially stokers, fitters, electricians, locksmiths and charwomen were employed. Lieutenant Muslimov (fnu) who had been detached to the Kech [redacted] in the See Kaserne was no longer seen. From conversations, source learned that Lieutenant Colonel (Tech) Ruzhkov (fnu) and Major Shirenin (fnu), his assistant, both belonging to the superior Kech in Fuerstenberg, reenlisted for another 10 years of service with the Occupation Forces in East Germany.

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10. At about noon on 5 January, 20 trucks loaded with fire wood passed through Storbeck from the direction of Frankendorf and proceeded toward Neuruppin. The

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On 6 January, JS tanks No 572 and 573 and T-34 tanks No 566, 577, 561 and 292 practiced driving in the eastern sector of Gentzrode troop training grounds. The tanks had come from the Fridericus Kaserne and returned to the quarters at about 3 p.m. On 7 January, T-34 tanks No 566, 561, 461, 456, 577, 292, 261 and 265 moved along the Altruppin-Fuergerwendermark road toward Gentzrode troop training grounds. On 9 January, 15 trucks of a driver school passed several times through Storbeck. The troops wore red-bordered black epaulets.

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25X1A 1. Comment. The officers who, except for Colonel S.A. Gromakov, Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandreyev (fnu), Lieutenant Colonel Tsevchenko (fnu), and Major Shivenin (fnu) are known, can be identified with the following units of the 12th Gds Tank Div:

Gds Colonel Potyemkin (fnu), as division commander,  25X1B  
 Lieutenant Colonel Momotenko (fnu) )  
 Major Duerkov (fnu) ) with the division headquarters  
 Lieutenant Colonel Bykovski (fnu) with the 48th Gds Tank Regt  
 Colonel S.A. Gromakov, as commanding officer of the 18th Gds Mtrcl Bn (US)  
 Lieutenant Colonel Kovalenko (fnu) with the 18th Gds Mtrcl Bn (US)  
 Major Nikolayev (fnu) with the 186th Gds Sig Bn (US)  
 Lieutenant Colonel Tsevchenko (fnu) as commanding officer of the 75th AAA  
 Regt (US),  25X1B  
 Lieutenant Colonel Zultanov (fnu) with the 75th AAA Regt (US),  25X1B  
 Lieutenant Colonel Stetsenko (fnu) )  
 Lieutenant Muzlimov (fnu) ) with the 226th Mort Regt,  25X1B

This information and the statements in paragraph 5 confirm the following units of the division as being stationed in Neuruppin:

The division headquarters, up to 23 December 1953  
 The 48th Gds Tank Regt, up to 7 January 1954  
 The 18th Gds Mtrcl Bn (US), up to 15 December 1953  
 The 186th Gds Sig Bn (US), up to 15 December 1953  
 The 89th Gds RL Bn (US), up to 21 December 1953  
 The 226th Mort Regt, up to 9 January 1954  
 The 75th AAA Regt (US), up to 9 January 1954.

The transfer of the 186th Gds Sig Bn (US) from the Telegrafentbauamt building on Junker Strasse to the See Kaserne appears credible. It is assumed, however, that the vacated quarters will be reoccupied by officers' dependents rather than the 226th Mort Regt as was stated in paragraph 8. It is believed that equipment of the abovementioned signal battalion was stored in the cantonment on Scholtenplatz. Except for the transfer mentioned above, report indicates no changes in the distribution of units of the division in Neuruppin post.

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25X1A 2. Comment.  see Field Comment 1.

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